Coney Hill Community Primary School

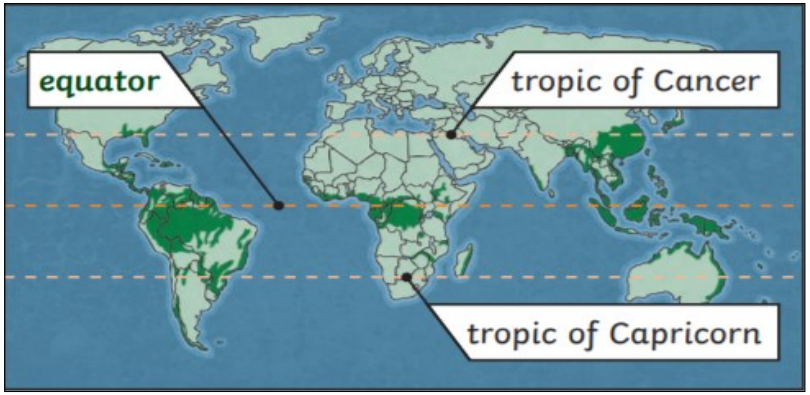
Geography - Year 5 - Spring - Rainforests



What is deforestation?

Deforestation is the name given to the destruction of the **rainforests** and this is being done by burning them down, **chopping** down the trees or **flooding** the areas.

This is happening so fast that an area the size of one football pitch is being destroyed every minute! If this carries on at this speed, it will take less than a hundred years to **destroy** all the



Emergent Layer	Canopy Layer	Understory Layer	Forest Floor
Trees can be up to 60m tall	Trees form a roof over the plants below	Trees grow to less than 4m tall	Very few plants
Lots of sunlight	Lots of sunlight but also plenty of rain	Very little sunlight	Almost no sunlight
Cold and windy	Lots of food for animals	Warm and humid	Leaves and debris decompose quickly
Birds, bats, monkeys and butterflies	Snakes, toucans and tree frogs	Lots of insects	Gorillas, anteaters, leopards and tigers

Key Questions

1) What are biomes and vegetation belts?
2) Where are the world's rainforests? Can I locate them on a map?
3) What are the different layers of the rainforest?
4) What is the significance of the Equator, hemispheres and tropics?
5) How does the climate zone impact the climate of the rainforest?
6) Where is the Amazon Rainforest? What are the physical features of the Amazon Rainforest?
7) How is land used in the Amazon Rainforest? What are the human features?
8) What threatens our rainforests? Why are they in danger? What impact could this have?
9) What is Fair Trade?

Can I still recall...?

- What does Geography mean?
- Do you know any key geographical events?
- Can you identify where countries are on a map?
- Do you know where the equator is?
- What geographical events have happened in your lifetime?
- What is the structure of the earth?
- What are the most deadly features of an earthquake?

Vital Vocabulary

Region	In geography, regions, otherwise referred to as zones, lands or territories.
Rainforest	A dense forest rich in biodiversity, found typically in tropical areas with consistently heavy rainfall.
Biome	A biome is a large area characterized by its vegetation, soil, climate, and wildlife
Climate	Climate is the average weather conditions in a place over 30 years or more.
Deforestation	Deforestation is the clearing, or cutting down, of forests.
Vegetation belt	A vegetation belt is an area with distinct plant types, determined by climate, soil, drainage and elevation.
Southern Hemisphere	The Southern Hemisphere includes everything south of the Equator.
Northern Hemisphere	The Northern Hemisphere includes everything north of the Equator.
Equator	It is an imaginary line around the Earth that goes exactly midway between the North Pole and the South Pole.

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Physical Characteristics of a Tropical Rainforest

Climate	Water	Soils	Plants	Animals
• Hot (20-28˚C) • Sun is overhead all year round so there is no seasonal variation. • Wet (2000mm per year) • **Convectional** rainfall every day	• The roots of plants take up water from the ground. • Rain is intercepted as it falls – much of it at the **canopy** level, this will **evaporate** as it heads up to form convectional rain	• Rain washes **nutrients** from the soil. • Soil is not very fertile. • Humus layer of rotting leaf-fall is very thin (heat speeds up **decomposition**).	• Most trees are evergreen. • Continual growing season. • Five layers: forest floor, shrub later, undercanopy, canopy (30m) and emergent. • Absorb CO2 and release oxygen.	• Many **species** of animals live in the tropical rainforest. • Food is plentiful and grows all year. • Hundreds of different types of monkeys snakes and birds. • Thousands of insect species live in the tropical

How does Fair Trade work?

Fairtrade is an arrangement which aims to ensure that farmers get a fair price for their goods.

Many items we enjoy can be **Fairtrade** but this often means it costs more to buy.

However, buying **Fairtrade** items helps to support those involved in the farming process. Growing cocoa for chocolate is a difficult task but **Fairtrade** is making it more sustainable.

You can also buy **Fairtrade** bananas and coffee which support the farmers involved in growing, harvesting and trading these.



Vital Vocabulary	
Import	Importing is when one country buys things from another country.
Export	Sending goods to sell in other countries is called export.
Climate Zone	A climate zone is an area that has its own distinct climate.
Supply Chain	A network of people and activities that help move a product from start to consumption by the end user.

